



ALEXANDRIA.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 23.

It is only natural that every right thinking man in the country should take great interest in the health of the President. Therefore, the recently published opinion of a Washington physician, to the effect that the President's failure to take requisite exercise has already affected his health, and renders him liable to the many diseases incident to such failure, is a matter of general comment. There is no doubt that what the physician referred to is true, and that the President has already acquired the appearance of men long in confinement. The President should be more careful of his health than any other man in the country, and why he doesn't take even the ordinary care of it that other men do of theirs is passing strange. Of all kinds of exercise, physicians agree that walking is the best, the easiest and the most agreeable, especially to men of full habit, like the President; but Mr. Cleveland sedulously avoids it, and contents himself with an occasional drive in an easy carriage, which, though it enables him to get a breath of fresh air, is really no exercise at all. In the earlier and better days of the country the Presidents used to walk about the streets of Washington like other people, and were all the better for doing so, and why Mr. Cleveland doesn't do likewise is not definitely known, and, therefore, gives occasion, and not unnaturally, to various complimentary surmises. It can hardly be that the President is, as some say, afraid to do so, for, if he be a reasonable man, he must know that no sane American would prefer him for President to take his place, and that an insane one could assault him as well, and indeed more safely, in the White House as on the most crowded street.

THE PEOPLE throughout the country—city and country people alike, wanted some change in the schedule of railroad charges, by which fare and freight would not, as they are in many cases, be more for a short than for a long distance. But it is needless to say that their want has not been supplied by the interstate commerce bill, which even its author, Senator Cullom, now confesses he does not understand, which nobody else does, which stimulates the railroads to increase their charges—and does not prevent them from doing so, and which enlarges the number of federal office holders and increases the already enormous expenses of the government. If it were not for its evil effects, much of the legislation of this country, national and State alike, would be farcical.

THE NEW YORK *Herald* says: "About every sort of device for 'settling the debt question' has been proposed in the Virginia Legislature except the payment of the debt."

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* says: "The Legislature of Virginia is in extra session, with a view to determining what shall be done with her State debt. Doubtless that great State is quite capable of attending to her own business, but, possibly, she will pay up as for express—the opinion which prevails here among those who feel most kindly toward her. Their suggestion is: Get the debt out of politics. Fund it upon the best obtainable terms, and then pay it."

The sneer of the *Herald* is well founded, and the advice of the *Enquirer* is wise.

As WHISKY is a staple article of commerce, under the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, commercial travelers, or drummers, from other States can sell whisky in Maine or Kansas, prohibitory States, without license from those States. If drummers can sell whisky in prohibitory States without State license, surely they can do so in Virginia, a non prohibitory State. After the whisky they sell has come into the hands of the buyers, the States can impose such taxes and restrictions upon its sale as they may choose, but they can not, under the decision referred to, tax the drummers for selling it to the buyers.

THE HOUSE of Delegates yesterday passed a bill allowing the Norfolk and Western Railroad to increase its capital stock to an indefinite amount, and to dispose of that stock as it may choose. Don't the delegates who voted for this bill know that the practical effect of it will be to make the road the easy material upon which stock gamblers can operate, and that, consequently, the inevitable result must be injury to the State as well as to the road?

OF THE five members of the interstate commerce committee four are from the North and one from the South. Now that they have been appointed, the question is what will they do with the interstate commerce bill, except draw the large salaries to which they are entitled by one of its provisions? It is hoped that from the length of time it took to select them, they may prove the right men in the right place.

WE HAVE received a copy of the opening statement and closing argument of Mr. Lueden Kent, in the famous Emmons case, in Washington.

COURT OF APPEALS YESTERDAY.—Johnson's executor vs. Citizens' Bank. Argued by F. W. Christian, esq., and Col. W. W. Gordon for appellants, and Wood Bouldin, esq., and Col. J. H. Guy for appellees and submitted.

Wells's administrator vs. Avers. Argued by Col. J. H. Guy for appellants.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Correspondence of the ALEX. GAZETTE.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 23, 1887.

Senator Riddleberger arrived in the city last night, and while apparently in one of his calmest moods and evidently free from all excitement yet warmed up on the approach of a group of Mahone's friends, and indulged in some pretty free expressions concerning his retired colleague and the Virginia situation in general. He said he should probably go to Richmond to-morrow night. He tolerates no thought of any departure by the Legislature from the terms of the Riddleberger bill, and advises that it be upheld and maintained to the last extremity. Personally he is willing to stake his political all on that measure, and will continue the fight for it against all comers.

"Whoever doth these boots displace Shall meet Bombastes face to face, And thus I challenge the whole human race!" The Senator doesn't seem to relish the report that General Mahone, out of the Senate, has more influence in respect of the patronage of that body than he, Riddleberger, in it, and intimates he will see about that, or know the reason why.

Ex-Senator Eaton, in a short talk with the GAZETTE's correspondent this morning, said the only mistake about the report of his late interview was that by which he was made to say that if Mr. Allison were the republican candidate for the next Presidency he would be elected. What he did say was that Mr. Allison would be a very strong candidate. No matter how he may think, the ex-Senator says he would not say that the republican candidate for the Presidency will be elected. It was evident, however, from the talk, that Mr. Eaton fears, as does the GAZETTE, that the injury Mr. Cleveland has done the party is almost irreparable between now and the next Presidential election.

At the meeting of the Maryland democratic association of this city last Monday night, the speech that was most enthusiastically applauded was that of Mr. Carr, police commissioner of Baltimore, who said "if educated clerks are wanted in the departments let educated democrats be put in place of the thousands of republican clerks who are receiving their support from a democratic administration which they hate and which they tried with all their might to keep from getting into power."

The Mount Vernon Bridge Company, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, was to-day awarded the contract for constructing the new aqueduct bridge across the Potomac at \$80,000. By a general order sent out from the War Department all army headquarters are notified that per diem employees on duty at Washington or elsewhere in the United States will be allowed the day of each year which is celebrated as Decoration Day, and the Fourth of July of each year, and shall receive the same pay as on other days.

Now that the President has been delivered of his long-gestated interstate commerce commission, he will proceed to consider the qualifications of applicants for other positions, taking up at once the commission to investigate the affairs of the Pacific railroads, the Austrian and Turkish missions, and the judgeship of the District of Columbia. There will be three members of the commission to investigate the Pacific railroads, each of whom will be paid \$750 a month as long as the commission may last, besides traveling expenses and all the clerks that may be wanted. As previously stated in this correspondence, it is pretty generally believed that Assistant Secretary Fairchild has already been selected for the treasury portfolio, and the President has informed a friend that as a New Yorker will get that place, the treasury portfolio will go to the West. It is supposed the place will fall to Mr. Clarence Cook, of Cincinnati, though it is believed at the bureau of printing and engraving that Mr. Graves, the superintendent of that bureau, will be appointed. Mr. Graves is a republican, but his appointment would not be objected to by the democrats, as it would remove him from a place that has several hundred minor positions at its disposal. It is still thought that the District judgeship will fall to a District man, probably Mr. Robinson, though many think it will be offered to ex-commissioner Montgomery, of the Patent Office.

At the government printing office about sixty employees are furloughed every day and taken on again the following day. A day's wages for each of the sixty is thus saved. This has to be done, it is said, in order to make the appropriation for the quarter hold out. The transfer of Mr. McKim, the foreman of the Congressional Record, to the Treasury branch of the printing office, was also a matter of economy.

It is learned on good authority that Secretary Manning's successor will not be appointed before April 1st, the date upon which Mr. Manning's resignation takes effect.

The President has commissioned J. Marion Brooks to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of California, and James P. Tucker to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Florida.

The democrats here are by no means pleased with the interstate commerce commission, as it is composed of two republicans, two democrats, and a newspaper democrat, which, together with the fact that the member who has been appointed for the longest term is a republican, gives it a republican complexion.

Up to noon to-day nothing had been heard of Mr. Adams, the bookkeeper of the Star, who has now been missing for a week.

STATE MATTERS.—The Finance Committee of the House of Delegates have begun the consideration of the bill proposing that where coupons are offered for taxes the State shall sue the tenderers to make them establish the genuineness of the coupons. The committee agreed to recommend an amendment to that section which requires that the defendant, whether he win or lose the case, shall pay \$12 as the cost of the jury. They will shape the bill so that to have a jury will not be compulsory; and in this litigation, as in others, either party can demand a jury. If then the verdict is against defendant he will have to pay the usual cost of a jury; also, a fee of \$10 for the Commonwealth's attorney.

The feeling in favor of the constitutional amendment is steadily growing, and many now predict that it will not only pass the House, but the Senate also. The amendment not only bars principal but interest also of all bonds not funded in new 3's in a limited time. There is great opposition to including the interest, and the probability is that it will not pass in that shape. It is argued that to include the tax-receivable coupons will enable the creditors to go into the United States courts promptly upon the adoption of the amendment to test its validity, whereas should interest be omitted no case could be made up, it is thought, until the limit given had expired. There is no tax-receivable feature in the bonds as in the coupons.—Richmond Dispatch of to-day.

THE ROYAL CASE.—Mr. W. L. Royall, who was fined for intimidating the grand jurors of the Hustings Court of Richmond, and imprisoned for refusing to pay the fine, yesterday morning obtained from Judge Bond a writ of habeas corpus, made returnable forthwith. Soon thereafter Mr. Royall was brought into court, but at the request of the Attorney-General, who stated he was not prepared to make return to the writ, the case was postponed till to-day. Mr. Royall meanwhile was placed in custody of the U. S. Marshal.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

[Special Correspondence of the ALEX. GAZETTE.]

RICHMOND, Va., March 22.—The first partisan debate of the extra session which occurred to-day in the House was a very exciting one, and is the fore-runner of several others likely to take place at an early day.

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Senator Causey is a good talker, Delegate Wise is a rapid speaker and Delegate Mallorey is the wit of the House.

The best speakers in the House on the democratic side are Messrs. Munford, Cordwell, Downing, Stuart and Hoge. The Senate is full of good speakers and yesterday was a field day for oratory. The matter under discussion was the resolution to increase the salaries of the circuit judges. This resolution is now on the calendar and will come up again soon upon a motion to reconsider.

When Speaker Stuart was advocating the passage of the Terminal Railway bill in the House this afternoon, Mr. Porter, of Portsmouth, interrupted him with the interrogatory, "Can the gentleman from Alexandria tell us whether the Terminal has purchased the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad?" Speaker Stuart laughed, and so did the whole House. Presently he said, "If the Terminal desired to buy the Baltimore and Ohio it would have to put up three times as much as is named in this bill." The amount named in the bill was \$40,000,000. Mr. Porter followed up his query with remarks to the effect that he wanted the Baltimore and Ohio to cease paying its indebtedness to the State in coupons.

U. S. Senator Butler, of South Carolina, who was before the Senate committee on roads this afternoon in behalf of the bill granting certain privileges to the Charleston, Cincinnati and Ohio Railroad Co., is so much like Dr. John L. Buchanan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, that he was mistaken for the Doctor this afternoon, while in the rotunda of the capitol waiting for the committee to meet. The Senator was leaning against the railing around Hon. Don's famous statue of Washington, apparently in deep thought, when a verdant stranger from southwest Virginia approached him with the remark, "Doctor the school business is booming in Flat Creek district."

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Legislative.

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Mr. Barbour offered a resolution, which was referred, providing that the Committee on Finance inquire into the expediency of reducing taxation on real and personal property to a rate not exceeding twenty-five cents on each \$100 of assessed value, and of making a corresponding reduction on the taxation on licenses and other subjects.

The House bill declaring \$40,000,000 of stock issued by the Richmond and West Point Terminal Railway and Warehouse Company to be legal and valid was taken up and ordered to its engrossment.

Mr. Stuart (Mr. Pollard in the chair), in explanation of the bill, said it only meant a ratification of stock which had long ago been issued, and of the legality of which some little doubt existed; that the charter of the company authorized \$100,000 worth of stock, with power to increase its capital stock when advisable; that subsequently the Board of Directors increased the company's liability \$40,000,000, and the bill was intended to legalize fully that stock.

A Senate bill (the exact duplicate of the above) was reported from the Senate by Mr. Lovenstein as having passed that body. The House concurred in the action.

Emperor William's Birthday.

The 90th anniversary of Emperor William's birthday was elaborately celebrated in Berlin, yesterday, with great pomp and splendor. The city was decorated as it never was before. Garlands, flags, laurels, festoons of evergreen, banners, bright drapery and brilliant carpets were hung on every conspicuous spot where ornament could be made to add to the joyous appearance of the town. Conspicuous by the extreme elegance of their decorations were the Royal Academy and the University buildings and the city residence of the Crown Prince Frederick William. The monument of Frederick the Great was covered with wreaths and flowers. Wherever there was a bust or statue of the Emperor in a shop window or other exposed place it was buried in flowers. The people were all out in holiday attire and the streets were thronged. The children from all the schools in the city were in processions, accompanied by bands of music. All the members of the imperial family, and all their princely guests drove in procession to the palace and personally tendered their congratulations to the Emperor. The municipal procession was preceded by heralds and marshals bearing the town banner, the whole body of the evangelical clergy, the chief civil and military authorities, representatives of German science, art and commerce, the directors of the gymnasiums and the bourgeois and communal officers, in all over two thousand persons. A rain-storm which set in at 3 o'clock and lasted until 6 had scarcely any effect upon the crowds of enthusiastic Germans who thronged the streets.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCHES

From Richmond.

[Special dispatch to the Alexandria GAZETTE.]

RICHMOND, March 23.—The bill to authorize and require the Board of Public Works to deliver to the City Council of Alexandria 1,220 shares of the capital stock of the Alexandria Canal Co. came up on its passage in the House to-day.

Mr. Stuart, of Alexandria (Mr. Cardwell in the chair), made a vigorous speech in favor of the bill, and in the course of his remarks he said: "The city of Alexandria has sunk nearly a half million dollars in this canal; she has sunk more than a quarter of a million in the old Manassas Gap Railroad Company; she has invested very nearly one million of dollars, out of a General Assembly valuation of four millions, in public improvements, and to-day the only evidence she has of its aid to these public works is a market house, built at a cost of fifty thousand." In conclusion, he said: "I ask you not to oppress the city I represent by refusing to grant the relief, and thus allow the Circuit Court of the United States to administer the affairs of our corporation for years to come. It may be it will be a crushing blow that I do not believe the people of the Commonwealth will inflict upon us, and I do not think the General Assembly will inflict it."

Mr. Waddell (rep.) advocated the bill warmly, saying he thought it was but an act of simple justice that the General Assembly should pass it.

Mr. Fulkerson, of Washington, said the only question with him was, Can the State give this stock held by the city of Alexandria?

The bill received a unanimous vote and was immediately taken to the Senate by Mr. Stuart.

Mr. Curlett (rep.), of Lancaster, introduced the following in the House to-day, which was referred, without discussion, to the Finance Committee.

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Virginia tender to the Hon. Hugh L. Bond, Judge of the United States Circuit Court, our heartfelt thanks for his action in the case of the Commonwealth vs. W. L. Royall.

Resolved further, That any member of either branch of the General Assembly who shall advocate the repudiation of the honest debt of Virginia, shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$1,000 and be deprived of all free passes on railroads.

Hon. John Randolph Tucker appeared before the Senate Finance Committee this morning. The matter under consideration was "the coupon crusher bill," recommended by Gov. Lee in his message. Mr. Tucker thinks the bill a good one. The committee has not decided when the bill shall be reported, if reported at all.

The democratic members of the General Assembly will hold a caucus to-night. What questions will be taken up for discussion are not now known. The State debt matter is not likely to be considered in caucus until after the meeting of the democratic State Central Committee which will assemble in Richmond at noon to-morrow.

The House bill to amend the charter of the city of Fredericksburg has been referred to the Senate Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns.

The Senate bill to give the consent of the State of Virginia to the erection of a hotel upon the lands of the United States at Fort Monroe was to-day reported with an amendment.

Mr. Meredith introduced a bill in the Senate to-day to validate the proceedings in and the decree of divorce pronounced in the Corporation Court of the city of Alexandria on January 14, 1887, in the chancery suit of Mary E. Holmes, by her next friend, vs. E. C. Holmes.

The Senate bill to establish a court of equity in Richmond was reported from committee to-day. This court is to have concurrent jurisdiction with the Chancery Court.

Dastardly Attempt.

QUEBEC, March 23.—This city is all excitement over a dastardly attempt to destroy human life. While the French portion of the Salvation Army were holding a meeting in Jeffrey Hale School Hall last night some person threw a bomb into the hall through a broken windowpane. The bomb exploded almost immediately and completely wrecked the front of the building. Several persons were injured, but fortunately none was killed.

Plotters Hanged.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 23.—It is reported that six persons were captured on Sunday in connection with the recent plot to assassinate the Czar and hanged on Monday. DeGaleff, the man who murdered Lt. Col. Suderkin, Russian Chief of Police, three years ago, and who was suspected of having planned the plot against the Czar's life, is said to have been one of the six.

No Verdict Yet.

NEW YORK, March 23.—At 11 o'clock this morning the court of Oyer and Terminer was filled with people anxious to hear the verdict in the case of ex-Alderman Thos. Cleary, the indicted bomber. Up to 11:30 the jury had not come into court, and the impression among those present was that there would be a disagreement.

Dynamite Found.

BERLIN, March 23.—The police of St. Petersburg have discovered stores of dynamite and apparatus for the manufacture of bombs in several villas at Pargalevo, a summer resort in the suburbs of the Russian capital.

Salvation Oil, the greatest cure on earth for pain will always give relief at once. It will positively cure rheumatism if used as per directions. 25 cents.

Good advice. If you have a friend with a cough or cold, tell him to try Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

A "JEHAD" AGAINST RUSSIA.—Advice

from Cabul state that the Amer has sent printed circulars to the tribes of Kohistan, urging them to join him in a holy war against Russia. The circular denounces the Czar as a tyrant and promise freedom. It warns the tribes that the Russian troops are daily advancing, and if they ever occupy Afghanistan they will continue in possession of that country. The circular also tells the people how Turkey fighting for the cause of Islamism, opposes Russia. The Amer summoned the Moslem teachers and doctors throughout the country to Cabul, where they were feasted at his direction, after which the Amer ordered them to incite the nation to a "jeihad" religious war against Russia. It is asserted by the Amer's council that the "jeihad" is now being actively preached. There is discontent in the garrison at Herat. The troops are paid in provisions, as no cash is available. It is stated that the trouble is being fomented by Russian spies.

THE STATE BOARD OF INDEMNITY.—In